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T. IPOLITALIA

(Prepared in behalf of the Department of Labor.)

From: American Consul

Haples, Italy.

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Coert du lois, American Consul General.

TEMPORARY EMIGRATION OF FARMERS FROM PROVINCE OF TRAPANI, SICILY, TO TRIPOLITANIA

There has been approved by His Excellency, Signor De Bono, Minister of Colonies, as well as by His Excellency, Premier Mussolini, a plan for the temporary emigration of farmers from the Province of Trapani, Sicily, to Tripolitania for the purpose of engaging in agricultural activities in the colony. It is stipulated that the farmers engaged in this temporary emigration to Tripolitania shall remain in the colony for the period of four months and no longer, except in special cases.

The individuals emigrating to Tripolitania are to be selected by the various Agricultural Syndicates (Sindacati dell'Agricoltura) from among the most capable farmers of their respective communities, who must be males and not less than 20 years of age. The emigrating families have to agree to the following stipulations:

- (a) To perform well all work entrusted to them during the period of the agreement and to be respectful and courteous at all times;
- (b) To accept such living quarters as are available or as circumstances permit;
- (c) To return to the Fatherland upon the expiration of the agreement;
- (d) Not to work for other concessionaires or farmers during the duration of the agreement.

The concessionaires and farmers who desire to receive families of colonists must direct their requests to the local Labor Office (Ufficio del Lavoro)

of the Fascist Federation of Tripolitania and agree to the following conditions:

- (a) To pay for third class railway and steamship tickets from the residence of the farmers to Tripoli and return, and from the city of Tripoli to the area to be cultivated and back to Tripoli. In instances in which the cost of the railway and steamship fare is paid by the Commissioner of Internal Migration, the person engaging the services of the farmer is to pay, at the termination of the contract, a sum equal to Lire 1.00 for each day of the duration of the agreement;
- (b) To pay a daily wage of Lire 7.00 for the duration of the contract, including legal holidays, starting with the date of disembarkation in the colony. Of the wages, Lire 6.00 for each day will be paid weekly, and Lire 1.00 will be paid at the termination of the contract, in order that the farmers may return to their homes with a certain amount of money saved;
- (c) To provide temporary quarters for the duration of the contract;
- (d) To pay half the wages due for the first 15 days in the usual way and to undertake the cost of repatriation in the event that the family must return to the Fatherland prior to the expiration of the contract, through accident or illness.

Should any of the farmers in the judgment of the Government of the Colony show themselves unfit for agricultural work, they may be repatriated at any time at the cost of the Commission for Migration and Internal Colonization.

The concessionaires and farmers desiring colonists must indicate the number of workmen wanted, the kind of work to be performed, the capacity of living quarters, and the number of other families already working for them. The concessionaires and farmers must agree to carry out all terms of the

present Act. The Labor Office will direct the requests for colonists to the Government of the Colony for the approval of the Governor, , to whom is reserved the right to reduce the number of workers requested. After the approval of the Governor has been obtained, the request is transmitted to the Prefect of Trapani for his decision, and a copy is forwarded to the local Director of Police. The latter Official may determine the duration of the provisional permissions to emigrate from Trapani to Tripolitania.

The Prefect of Trapani is to advise the Government of Tripolitania of the departure of the farmers. The Labor Office will take the necessary measures upon the arrival of the farmers in the colony, to see that they are looked after immediately by the concessionaires and farmers - or their respective representatives - to whom the new colonists are des-The concessionaires and farmers or their representatives likewise must take care of the colonists upon their repatriation. It is the duty of the Labor Office to see that the contracts are carried out, and any infractions are to be referred to the Government. All disagreements regarding the work are to be handled by the Arbitration Commission for Agricultural Disputes of the Government of Tripolitania.

Upon expiration of the agreement the temporary colonists are obliged to be repatriated, although families can remain if the concessionaire or farmer desires their services further and engages them by

regular colonial contract. In such cases the interested individuals must forward to the local
Office of the Commission for Migration and Internal
Colonization a regular request, together with a
copy of the colonial contract which the family is
willing to accept, and then the application will
follow the normal course.

To obtain the services of the first nucleus of emigrants from Trapani, it was necessary that all requests from concessionaires or farmers reach the local Labor Office of the Fascist Federation of Tripolitania not later than Wednesday afternoon, May 17th. All requests received after that date will be met with emigrants from later groups of farmers from Trapani.

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Sources of Information: (Confidential)

L'AVVENIRE DI TRIPOLI (daily newspaper published in Tripoli), issue of May 14, 1933.

Original and 3 copies for the Commercial Office,

Department of State;

l copy for the files of the Commercial Attaché, Rome;

2 copies for the files of the Consulate General.

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE	865c_52/9	FOR	Report	#37	
FROM	.Naples	(Withey) DATED	uly 8,1937	
то		NAME		1-1127	470

REGARDING: Public lands suitable for agricultural development -Libia.

Substance of a decree of April 3 establishing the framework

within which it is planned to administer --- by the native population.

Central File: Decimal File 865C.61, Internal Affairs Of States, Libya, Agriculture., July 8, 1937. 8 July 1937. MS European Colonialism in the Early 20th Century. National Archives (United States). Archives Unbound, link.gale.com%2Fapps%2Fdoc%2FSC5109726879%2FGD SC%3Fu%3Domni%26sid%3Dbookmark-GDSC. Accessed 18 June 2025.